



# 2019 Arctic Strategic Transportation and Resources (ASTAR) Update

*House Resources Committee*

Jeff Bruno, Large Project Coordinator, Office of Project Management & Permitting

Faith Martineau, Executive Director, Office of Project Management & Permitting

Steve Masterman Director, Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys

Alaska Department of Natural Resources

April 26, 2019



# ASTAR OVERVIEW

**Mission:** Identify, evaluate, and advance opportunities to enhance the quality of life and economic opportunities in North Slope communities through responsible infrastructure development.

**Goal:** Prioritize community needs and identify infrastructure opportunities that offer the most cumulative benefit and best enhance the quality of life for the region.

**Benefit Criteria include:**

- Cultural and Community Connectivity
- Health and Safety
- Workforce Development and Jobs
- Access to Educational Opportunities
- Preserves or Enhances Subsistence Traditions
- Lower Cost of Goods and Services

# OUR PARTNERS & TEAM

## North Slope Borough

### Department of Natural Resources

- Office of Project Management and Permitting
- Division of Mining, Land & Water
- Support Services Division
- Division of State Parks and Outdoor Recreation
- Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys
- Division of Oil & Gas

### Department of Health and Social Services

### Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

### Department of Transportation and Public Facilities



# DESIRED OUTCOMES

Identify and analyze potential infrastructure projects, which focus on community needs that enhance the quality of life and economic opportunity for the ASTAR region. Develop a cumulative benefits analysis tool, identify information gaps, and collect relevant field data to fill identified data gaps.

## **Robust Stakeholder Engagement to:**

- Create Projects Library
- Identify values, priorities, and benefits

## **Detailed Mapping to:**

- Characterize, catalog, analyze and identify potential construction resources

## **Cumulative Benefits Analysis Tool to:**

- Capture and quantify stakeholder input
- Apply concise methodology that could be used elsewhere in Alaska
- Identify areas within the ASTAR boundary that offer the most cumulative benefit by enhancing the quality of life and economic opportunities in the region

## **Collect relevant field data:**

- Identify data gaps that are essential to developing future community projects
- Collect relevant field data (i.e. gravel sources, lake surveys, LiDAR) to fill identified data gaps

# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

## **Projects Library**

Create community/regional project libraries to identify, evaluate, and analyze projects within the ASTAR boundary.

Projects were identified through community meetings and literature review (i.e. North Slope Borough Comprehensive plans).

In the Round 2 trips (ongoing), community leadership are assisting the ASTAR team in reviewing current project library and identifying any additional projects.

## **Community Surveys**

Round 1 meetings consisted of ASTAR introduction, stakeholder project identification, and benefits/value survey.

Round 2 Pairwise Survey will be conducted to compare and rank project benefits. This survey will help identify types of projects viewed as more beneficial to each community.

Just as in the projects libraries, community leadership are assisting the ASTAR team in comparing and ranking benefits.

# CUMULATIVE BENEFITS TOOL

## Methods

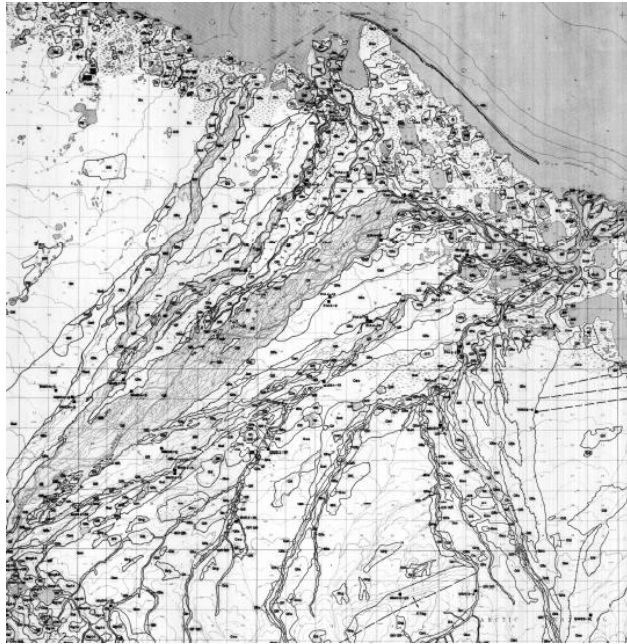
- Identify projects from relevant literature and stakeholder input (Projects library)
- Host workshops to prioritize community values and benefits (Leadership meetings)
- Develop models using GIS analytics to identify priority project areas
- Identify data gaps and potentially fill gaps for priority project areas within the ASTAR boundary (i.e. gravel survey)

## Cumulative Benefits Tool:

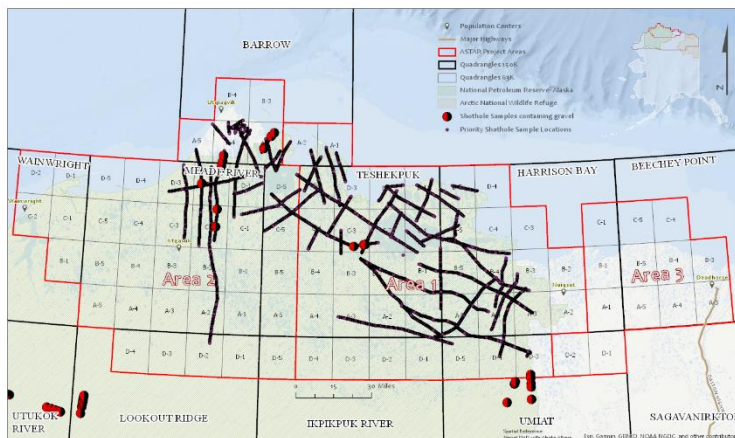
- Map potential connections among communities through projects
- Incorporate stakeholders' values/benefits
- Develop models to identify priority areas and projects based on community ranking of benefits and values
- Use established, proven, and peer-reviewed methodologies and analysis



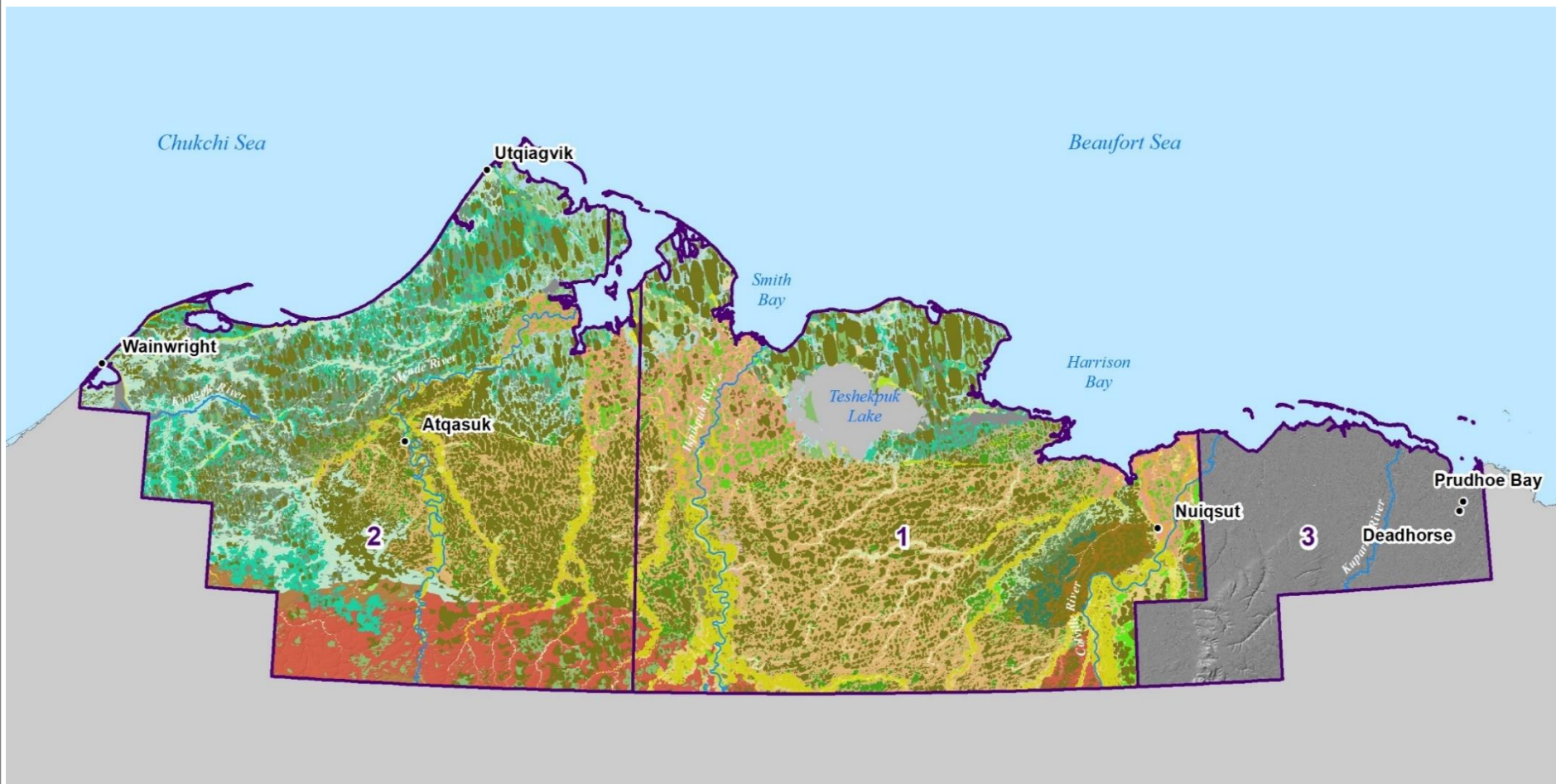
# SAND AND GRAVEL INVENTORY



- Terrain unit mapping
- Geological information compilation
- Shot hole mapping
- Fieldwork & drilling
- Data analysis and publication



# DETAILED MAPPING



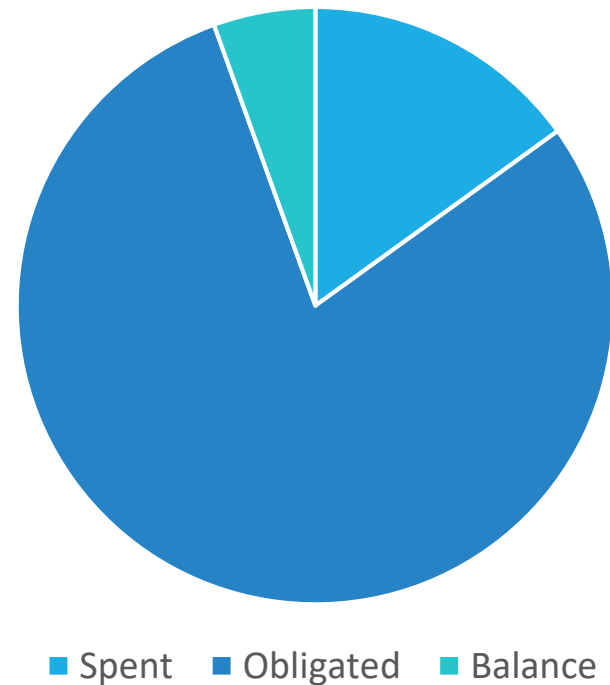


# BUDGET UPDATE

## Original Appropriation (FY18-FY20)

- Authorized: \$7.3 million
- Spent: \$1.4 million
- Obligated: \$5.5 million
  - Contractual services
  - Agency participation
  - Finish developing analytic tools and models
  - Stakeholder outreach
  - Identify data gaps
  - Field data collection (fill data gaps)
  - Coastal Plain/NPR-A IAP EIS
  - ASTAR Strategic Plan (final document)
- Balance: \$400,000

## Funding Status



# NEXT STEPS

- Complete round 2 stakeholder outreach (in process)
  - Additional surveys and project evaluation with community leaders
- Finish “cumulative benefit tool”
- Run/verify models & tools for assessing priority project areas
- Continue/complete terrain unit mapping
- Develop database to house ASTAR info, tools, and models
- Identify project data gaps and collect relevant field data that will live long after the ASTAR project is completed (i.e. gravel surveys, LiDAR, lake surveys, etc.)
- Conduct final round of community outreach to deliver ASTAR products/findings

# THANK YOU

For questions regarding ASTAR, please contact:  
Jeff Bruno, Project Coordinator at [jeff.bruno@alaska.gov](mailto:jeff.bruno@alaska.gov)

